

## **SEPTEMBER 2022 QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT**

A. Grant/IAG No.: **00D97919**

Principal Investigator: **Lifecycle Building Center, Inc. (LBC)**

1. What work was accomplished for this reporting quarter?

**From May 2022 to August 2022, LBC leveraged a \$6,000 contribution from Georgia Tech's Serve Learn Sustain (SLS) program and contributed \$3,000 to bring on two student interns from the SLS program, Jackie Zong (Civil Engineering, Minor in Architecture) and Taylor Campbell (Literature, Media, and Communications). The interns worked alongside LBC's community partner organizations to develop the Breaking Barriers through Deconstruction Workforce training program and the Community Reuse Toolkit. As the fall semester started, LBC retained Jackie Zong as a part time intern to continue to support the effort.**

**LBC, in partnership with Build Reuse and an outside consultant (30-year deconstruction veteran and co-founder of the Building Materials Reuse Association, Brad Guy) launched the Community Reuse Toolkit questionnaire to over 1,200 reuse and deconstruction service providers across the U.S. About 120 organizations have responded thus far, and the data collected will be used to develop the Toolkit. Brad also conducted detailed interviews with 10 organizations which have significant representation across different regions to 1) further analyze factors that have contributed to their success and 2) learn what their biggest challenges and obstacles have been. Through this data collection process, a draft assessment tool was developed that includes multiple indicators for assessing the feasibility of building material reuse and deconstruction in a specific region. The draft assessment tool is still in progress.**

**Further progress has also been made with the Breaking Barriers Through Deconstruction Workforce Training Program by using an Asset-Based Community Development approach. Through individual partner meetings and monthly coalition work sessions, LBC has built a coalition with 20+ community facing organizations to support and participate in the program. Moreover, Mother's Tongue Consulting, in partnership with the City of Atlanta and the Museum of Design Atlanta, held two planning workshops to support the program's development. The first workshop focused on how using reclaimed materials to retrofit blighted residential properties within Atlanta's underserved communities can help mitigate equity theft, reduce the disproportionate energy and water burdens on low-wealth households, and improve livability and housing performance to create more resilient communities and a robust circular economy within the City of Atlanta. The second workshop focused more specifically on how LBC's workforce training program can contribute toward the achievement of these broader goals. Through these meetings, work sessions and focused workshops, the coalition was also able to develop a value statement for the program, update the project budget and work plan, determine leaders for each working group (Trainee Recruitment & Support, Curriculum Development, Employer**

Engagement, Marketing / Communications, and Fundraising / Capacity Building), identify potential trainee groups (local residents from Atlanta's westside communities), and begin determining desired soft skills training / supportive services for trainees in the program. Kickoff meetings of each working group will be held in October.

A Coalition Memorandum of Understanding was also developed and executed with 8 of our core community partners (Grove Park Foundation, Georgia Trade-Up, West Atlanta Watershed Alliance, Groundwork Atlanta, Center for Sustainable Communities, Build Reuse, Georgia Tech's Serve Learn Sustain Program and 2M Design Consultants), and a Letter of Intent between LBC and the City of Atlanta was also developed.

The current community partners within the Breaking Barriers Coalition include:

- 2M Design Consultants / Belinda Morrow: [2m-inc.net/](http://2m-inc.net/)
- Atlanta Housing Authority: [atlantahousing.org/](http://atlantahousing.org/)
- Atlanta Technical College: [atlantatech.edu/](http://atlantatech.edu/)
- Build Reuse: [buildreuse.org](http://buildreuse.org)
- Center for Sustainable Communities: [csc-atl.org/](http://csc-atl.org/)
- City of Atlanta Office of Resilience: [100atl.com/office-of-resilience](http://100atl.com/office-of-resilience)
- Edge Collaborative: [edgecollaborative.org/](http://edgecollaborative.org/)
- Georgia Interfaith Power & Light: [gipl.org/](http://gipl.org/)
- Georgia Tech Serve-Learn Sustain: [serve-learn-sustain.gatech.edu/](http://serve-learn-sustain.gatech.edu/)
- Georgia Trade-Up / Stand-Up: [georgiastandup.org/](http://georgiastandup.org/)
- Greening Youth Foundation: [gyfoundation.org/](http://gyfoundation.org/)
- GreenShortz: [greenshortz.com/](http://greenshortz.com/)
- Groundwork Atlanta: [groundworkusa.org/focus-areas/](http://groundworkusa.org/focus-areas/)
- Grove Park Foundation: [groveparkfoundation.org/](http://groveparkfoundation.org/)
- Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation: [kgbf.org/](http://kgbf.org/)
- Mary Parker Foundation: [maryparkerfoundation.org/](http://maryparkerfoundation.org/)
- Mother's Tongue Consulting: [earth-centereddesign.com/](http://earth-centereddesign.com/)
- Partnership for Southern Equity: [psequity.org/](http://psequity.org/)
- Rebuilding Together Atlanta: [rebuildingtogether-atlanta.org/](http://rebuildingtogether-atlanta.org/)
- Re:Purpose Savannah: [repurposesavannah.org/](http://repurposesavannah.org/)
- Southface Institute: [southface.org/](http://southface.org/)
- U.S. Green Building Council – Georgia Chapter: [usgbc.org/chapters/usgbc-georgia](http://usgbc.org/chapters/usgbc-georgia)
- West Atlanta Watershed Alliance (WAWA): [wawa-online.org/](http://wawa-online.org/)

LBC has also made significant progress on employer outreach in different career pathways for the workforce training program. The employer partners will share insights on what skills can make trainees competitive in the green job market during the planning of the program and potentially hire some trainees after the program.

The current employer partners within the Breaking Barriers Collaborative include:

- Alternative Energy Southeast: [altenergyse.com/](http://altenergyse.com/)

- Evergreen Construction: [evergreencorp.com/](http://evergreencorp.com/)
- GT Ray C Anderson for Sustainable Business Drawdown Georgia Business Compact: [scheller.gatech.edu/centers-and-initiatives/ray-c-anderson-center-for-sustainable-business/drawdown/index.html](http://scheller.gatech.edu/centers-and-initiatives/ray-c-anderson-center-for-sustainable-business/drawdown/index.html)
- Georgia Tech Facilities Management: [facilities.gatech.edu/](http://facilities.gatech.edu/)
- JE Dunn Construction: [jedunn.com/](http://jedunn.com/)
- Juneau Construction Company: [juneaucc.com/](http://juneaucc.com/)
- National Association of the Remodeling Industry - Atlanta Chapter: [nariatlanta.org/](http://nariatlanta.org/)
- Skanska: [skanska.com/](http://skanska.com/)
- Spelman College Facilities Management: [www.spelman.edu/](http://www.spelman.edu/)
- Wellstar: [wellstar.org](http://wellstar.org)

An RFP was also developed and released for a project management consultant to provide additional support for project planning and execution.

2. What problems (or sources of error), if any, were encountered?

Many of the nonprofit community partner organizations supporting the workforce training program have limited capacity and staff availability. However, their engagement has been critical in co-designing this program with the residents and local communities to gain better understanding of their needs, which is the key to the success of the program. Further, the objectives of some partner organizations are not aligned perfectly with each other. For example, some partner organizations would like to focus on training youth, and some would like to focus on training veterans. It's difficult to leverage all their needs due to time constraints and very limited project funding.

LBC's limited staff capacity has also continued to impact the project's progress, which has made it difficult to keep the project on schedule.

3. If a problem was encountered, what action was taken to correct it?

In order to provide more support to the nonprofit community partner organizations who are working with LBC and Build Reuse to design and execute the training program, LBC continues to identify additional funding sources from which LBC and some of our other coalition partners are submitting requests on behalf of the collaborative. LBC is also working on bringing a project manager on board to identify and prioritize what the community organizations need and to further enhance the program's design to ensure that each organization can increase its capacity and effectiveness through involvement in the program.

In order to ensure that the project can be completed on schedule, the decision was made to hire a project management consultant. An RFP was developed and released, with a consultant expected to be selected and hired in October.

4. What work is projected for the new quarter activity?

The following tasks have been identified for the upcoming quarter:

**1. Community Reuse Toolkit**

- **Work with Build Reuse to finalize format & develop graphic portions of Reuse Toolkit**

**2. Deconstruction Training**

- **Formal kickoff meetings with coalition working groups (curriculum development, employer partner engagement, trainee recruitment/support, marketing/communications, fundraising/capacity building**
- **Work with community organization partners to identify needed supportive services for trainees and desired industry skills (construction, abatement, facilities management, etc.)**
- **Determine which community organization partners will provide soft skills training / supportive services for trainees**
- **Create a general information flyer for program (why, what, how, when) for both trainee recruitment and employer engagement**
- **Execute information session for potential employer partners to introduce program**
- **Develop assessment process to identify qualified trainees**
- **Create trainee characteristics/commitments 1-pager**
- **Develop draft of deconstruction training curriculum & get feedback from partners**
- **Develop & execute agreements with community organization partners for soft skills training and supportive services for trainees**
- **Refine deconstruction training curriculum & present to partners**
- **Develop trainee recruitment strategy & marketing materials**
- **Identify employer partners with commitments on number of trainees they will hire**
- **Develop agreements with employers that can provide on-the-job training salary and are willing to hire trainees upon graduation**

5. Is the project work on schedule?

**No. While our partners are committed to help LBC execute the training and career fair, the coalition has concluded that the soonest we will be able to initiate the training will be Q1 2023, or possibly Q2 2023. Consequently, LBC is requesting a 12-month no-cost extension for the grant.**

(a) This quarter?

**No.**

(b) For the project?

**No.**

6. Does the project funding rate support the work progress?

**Yes.**

7. What has been spent to date?

A total of \$

**\$31,846.00**

8. Has a quarterly voucher been submitted for reimbursement? A copy should be attached to the quarterly report.

**Yes. The most recent draw includes:**

· **\$2,500 for our project management consultant's initial monthly fee and \$3,077 for time spent by LBC's Executive Director since January 2022.**

9. Is there a change in principal investigator?

**No.**

10. If this is a multi-year project with multiple budget periods, has a request been submitted for a funding amendment?

**N/A**